

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any other paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 with Express Mail No. EU736542268US on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

3/11/04  
Date

Michael J. D'Aurelio  
Michael J. D'Aurelio

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of:	)	
Michael J. Schuster	)	
Serial Number: Not yet assigned	)	Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Filing Date: Herewith	)	Examiner: Not yet assigned
Title: TOILET FILL VALVE WITH VALVE LOCK	)	Docket No.: 1008-100400
	)	
	)	
	)	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR §1.97(b).
- ☐ under 37 CFR §1.97(c) together with either a:
- ☐ a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e) is provided below; or
  - ☐ a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ as required under 37 CFR 1.17(p) paid as indicated below.
- ☐ under 37 CFR §1.97(d) together with a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e) as provided below; and a fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_ as set forth under 37 CFR 1.17(p) paid as indicated below.

In addition, the following apply as indicated:

- ☒ Submitted herewith is/are form(s) PTO 1449 along with copies of patents, publications, or other information of which applicant(s) are aware that applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.
- ☐ Submitted herewith is/are forms PTO 1449 that identify the patents, publications, or other information previously cited or submitted to the Office in the following application(s) upon which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120.

Serial Number	Filing Date

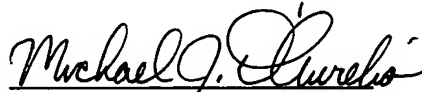
- ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of any foreign language patents, publications, and other information listed on the form(s) PTO 1449 submitted herewith as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ The undersigned hereby states as set forth under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the this information disclosure statement.
- ☐ The undersigned hereby states as set forth under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2) that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Any fee due as indicated above is provided as indicated below:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed herewith that covers or includes the required fee as indicated above.
- ☐ A form PTO-2038 is enclosed herewith authorizing a credit card charge in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ Please charge to Deposit Account 50-2425 the sum of \$0.00.
- ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any insufficiencies and the Commissioner is hereby requested to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-2425.

Applicant(s) respectfully requests that the references listed in the form(s) PTO 1449 be "made of record" in the above-identified patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Michael J. D'Aurelio  
 Registration Number 40,977

D'Aurelio & Mathews, LLC  
 96 Church Street  
 Chagrin Falls, OH 44022  
 Phone: (440) 729-7450  
 Fax: (440) 729-7465

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Michael J. Schuster
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	1008-100400

Sheet 1 of 2

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 2002/0092090 A1	07-18-2002	Johnson	
		US- 2002/0162166 A1	11-07-2002	Saar et al.	
		US- 3,986,216	10-19-1976	Davis et al.	
		US- 3,994,628	11-30-1976	Kemper	
		US- 4,007,498	02-15-1977	Pearson	
		US- 4,017,916	04-19-1977	Pearson	
		US- 4,032,822	06-28-1977	Un	
		US- 4,090,532	05-23-1978	Story, Jr.	
		US- 4,145,775	03-27-1979	Butler	
		US- 4,392,260	07-12-1983	Bensen	
		US- 4,707,867	11-24-1987	Kawabe et al.	
		US- 4,764,996	08-23-1988	Pino	
		US- 4,793,588	12-27-1988	Laverty, Jr.	
		US- 4,918,764	04-24-1990	Haselswerdt et al.	
		US- 4,980,932	01-01-1991	Stemples	
		US- 5,007,452	04-16-1991	Antunez	
		US- 5,036,553	08-06-1991	Sanderson	
		US- 5,052,060	10-01-1991	Makita et al.	
		US- 5,134,729	08-04-1992	Shaw	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	Herewtih
First Named Inventor	Michael J. Schuster
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	1008-100400

Sheet 2 of 2

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,245,710	09-21-1993	Haselswerdt et al.	
		US- 5,362,026	11-08-1994	Kobayashi et al.	
		US- 5,432,959	07-18-1995	Ellsworth et al.	
		US- 5,469,586	11-28-1995	Tsutsui et al.	
		US- 5,708,991	01-20-1998	DeMarco	
		US- 5,715,860	02-10-1998	Horad	
		US- 6,202,227 B1	03-20-2001	Gurowitz	
		US- 6,209,576 B1	04-03-2001	Davis	
		US- 6,263,519 B1	07-24-2001	Parsons et al.	
		US- 6,560,790 B2	05-13-2003	Saar et al.	
		US- 4,420,845	12-20-1983	Antunez	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.